GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:147
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2007
REHABILITATION OF DISPLACED OF POWER PROJECTS
Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry proposes to bring more continuity in the Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) initiatives for people affected by power projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the families residing near the power projects are facing various health problems due to exposure of power generation fumes;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) & (b) : The Government of India has recently notified the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 on 31st October, 2007. The main objectives of the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 are as under:

(i) to ensure adequate rehabilitation package and expeditious implementation of the rehabilitation process with the active participation of the affected families;

(ii) to ensure that special care is taken for protecting the rights of the weaker sections of society, especially members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and to create obligations on the State for their treatment with concern and sensitivity;

(iii) to provide a better standard of living, making concerted efforts for providing sustainable income to the affected families;

(iv) to integrate rehabilitation concerns into the development planning and implementation process; and

(v) where displacement is on account of land acquisition, to facilitate harmonious relationship between the requiring body and affected families through mutual cooperation.

(c) : National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC Limited) have informed that no such incidence of health problems due to exposure of emissions (fumes) from any of their power generating stations have been reported by any family residing near the NTPC Power Stations. Moreover, the emission levels from the thermal power generating stations are monitored and maintained within the prescribed limits by the respective Central/State Pollution Control Board as per the Environment Protection Act, 1986.

(d) & (e) : Questions do not arise.